

Saudi Arabia, UAE pledge to work for peace in Gulf

GCC ministers end secret talks

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — Saudi Arabian King Fahd and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan on Sunday met in the Saudi port city of Jeddah and pledged anew to work for a peaceful settlement between warring Iran and Iraq.

Defence ministers of the Saudi-led Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance met here on a collective defence strategy against offshoots of the six-year-old Gulf war on their vital oil tanker sea lanes.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, the southern Gulf neighbours of the two northern Gulf belligerents.

Sheikh Zayed will be hosting early November in Abu Dhabi the next annual summit conference of the GCC heads of state, and was in Jeddah for advance consultations on the agenda with King Fahd.

The official Emirates News Agency said the Saudi and UAE leaders discussed the situation in the Gulf region in light of the developments of the Iran-Iraq war and "the necessity of exerting every possible effort to stop this war."

The agency did not elaborate. The GCC powers have been exerting efforts individually and collectively to bring the hostilities between their northern neighbours to an end since the Gulf war erupted in September 1980.

GCC peace efforts are presently focused on the United Nations where a Security Council debate on the war continues Monday.

Abu Dhabi's semi-official newspaper Al Itihad reported earlier in the day that U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would soon visit Baghdad,

Tehran and GCC capitals "to pave the way for a peace dialogue" between the two belligerents. He would be accompanied by the chairman of the current U.N. General Assembly session, it said.

Quoting unidentified diplomatic sources, the paper said current consultations at the world body evolved around the "prospects of finding a quick end to the war."

Iran, which has rejected all peace bids to date, has escalated attacks on neutral commercial vessels sailing to and from GCC ports in retaliation for the Iraqi air blockade on its Gulf oil terminals.

Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah said the meeting "concentrated on air, sea and air defence measures, designed to safeguard the dignity of the GCC states."

Neither Sheikh Salem nor other conference participants disclosed further details on the conference decisions, however.

Recommendations have to be ratified by the GCC heads of state when they meet in Abu Dhabi.

Arab diplomatic sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said the ministers discussed naval patrols in the Gulf waters aside from the establishment of an air umbrella linked to the U.S.-built Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) planes deployed by Saudi Arabia.

The patrols would sail close to tankers and freighters moving

through the Gulf waters to discourage the Iranian attacks, the sources said.

U.S., British and French naval task forces are also in the Gulf waters and reportedly planning to provide similar protection for the commercial flag nations of their respective countries, said the sources.

According to the sources, commercial vessels of all nationalities in the southern neutral sector of the Gulf waters would probably be asked to move in convoys to facilitate the mission of protecting naval escorts.

Naval escort chores could also be distributed, with each GCC member state providing protection for commercial vessels sailing in its respective vicinity, they added.

Iranian Phantom jets, helicopter gunships and gunboats have this year alone attacked more than 35 neutral commercial vessels sailing to and from GCC ports and intercepted scores of others of different nationalities near the Strait of Hormuz.

The Iranian attacks were in retaliation for Iraqi raids on tankers plying its Kharg Island oil terminal, in the north eastern reaches of the Gulf waters. Iraqi warplanes crippled about 40 Iranian-commissioned tankers this year.

Baghdad's savoured aim from the blockade clamped around Kharg since February 1984 is to pressure the Tehran regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to accept a negotiated settlement to the six-year-old Gulf war.

Instead, Iran has been directing its counter blows to the Gulf Arab neighbours, with Iranian leaders vowing that all Gulf oil route will

be threatened as long as Iraq threatens its own shipping lanes.

As the so-called tanker war escalated this year, Iran also recently sent its warplanes attacking a tanker only four miles from a major UAE offshore oil terminal. In another recent case, an Iranian gunboat sped across the Gulf waters by moonlight and struck a Kuwaiti tanker near Kuwait and Saudi offshore oil fields.

Iran's attacks last month included a French and a British supertanker.

Iranian leaders have also threatened to block the Hormuz, the strategic southern gateway of the Gulf through which passes about 20 per cent of the non-Communist world's supply of crude oil. The Hormuz is straddled by the Sultanate of Oman.

The GCC was born in May 1981 in the shadows of the Iran-Iraq war which had erupted a few months earlier. The alliance of the Gulf Arab powers seeks economic integration as well as collective security.

Cooperation in the defence sphere was stepped up by the GCC member countries as the dangers of the protracted war between their northern Gulf neighbours crept menacingly close to their doorsteps.

When Iranian forces entered into Iraq's southern Basra peninsula last February, they brought the war to within 24 kilometres from Kuwaiti islands.

Iranian leaders have been drumming up for another major ground offensive against Iraq, widely expected to take place in the Basra region close to Kuwait should it materialise.

Israel has become 'a leading nuclear power'

LONDON (R) — The Sunday Times of London reported Sunday that Israel has been producing nuclear warheads for the last 20 years and has become one of the world's leading nuclear powers.

"Now it has almost certainly begun manufacturing thermonuclear weapons, with yields big enough to destroy entire cities," the newspaper said in its main front-page story.

The report, which ran to three pages, said its information was based on evidence given by Mordechai Vanunu, a 31-year-old Israeli who the newspaper said worked as a nuclear technician for nearly 10 years in a top secret underground bunker.

Israeli Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein last week dismissed claims by Vanunu in the British press that Israel had produced a neutron bomb, saying Vanunu had been fired and had a grudge.

But the Sunday Times Sunday quoted nuclear expert Dr. Frank Barnaby as saying: "As a nuclear

physicist, it was clear to me that details he (Vanunu) gave me were scientifically accurate and clearly showed that he had not only worked on these processes but knew the details of the techniques."

The newspaper said Israel now ranked as the world's sixth most powerful nuclear power, behind the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China. It said Israel had possessed a secret weapons factory for more than 20 years, hiding its plutonium extraction processes from spy satellites and inspections by burying it under an innocuous, little used building.

The Sunday Times published several pictures of what it said was Israel's bomb factory, hidden beneath the Negev Desert at Dimona, Israel's nuclear research establishment.

Vanunu, now in Australia, had secretly taken 60 photographs of Dimona, it said.

The underground factory, built on six levels, was equipped with

French plutonium extracting technology with rates amounting to 40 kilograms a year, enough to build 10 bombs, it said.

It added that in the past six years, Israel had acquired equipment to make components for thermonuclear devices.

The newspaper said nuclear scientists it had consulted calculated that "at least 100 and as many as 200 nuclear weapons of varying destructive power have been assembled — 10 times the previously estimated strength of Israel's nuclear arsenal."

It quoted nuclear weapons expert Theodore Taylor as saying: "There should no longer be any doubt that Israel is, and for at least a decade has been, a fully-fledged nuclear weapons state."

The Israeli nuclear weapons programme is considerably more advanced than indicated by any previous report or conjectures of which I am aware."

Israel has for years refused to comment on its nuclear capability. Its leaders have maintained a

calculated ambiguity on the subject, apparently to try to deter any attack from neighbouring Arab states.

Reports about Israel's nuclear potential have been persistent. A television programme by the American Network ABC in June 1985 said Israel had developed a 26 megawatt reactor capable of producing enough plutonium to make one bomb a year.

France ready to revise ties with Iran, Tehran says

NICOSIA (AP) — France is prepared to revise its policy towards Iran in an attempt to improve relations between the two countries, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati as saying Sunday. The agency said Mr. Velayati was speaking at a cabinet meeting in Tehran on his recent talks in New York.

Group seeks to promote Afro-Asian cooperation

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "This is the first occasion in history that representatives of Afro-Asian countries have gathered together to discuss problems facing agriculture and rural reconstruction in their countries at an international gathering like the present one," said Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, the president of the first Afro-Asian conference on rural reconstruction held in New Delhi in January 1961.

It was at this conference that a proposal to formulate the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) was accepted. The organisation has become a forum to promote cooperation among the people of Afro-Asian countries towards a better understanding of their problems and for exploring the opportunities to coordinate efforts in the field of rural reconstruction.

An organisation for such purposes was deemed necessary at the end of the Second World War. The dawn of independence for various Asian and African countries meant problems and difficulties in their development since the economies of the countries were still backward. Members of AARRO recognised that the basic source of strength for sustained development lay in the vast rural areas where the majority of the people lived. However, the newly independent developing countries needed to cooperate, exchange experience and expertise and ensure mutual help and cooperative effort, especially in rural regions and in funding development projects.

Almost all the countries in Africa and Asia are entitled to join AARRO as full members. The present membership consists of 26 countries. 12 countries from Africa — Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mauritius, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Sudan, and Tunisia — and 14 from Asia — China,

India, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Lebanon, Maldives, Malaysia, Oman, Philippines, Syria, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates. In addition, there is one associate member, the Institute of Rural Development in Kenya. The organisation is open to any country which is a full or associate member of the United Nations or any of its specialised agencies or any organisation or foundation concerned with the development of rural communities.

Regional offices

AARRO decided to open four regional offices. At present, only the one in Seoul representing the Far East is actually operational. Others are planned in Ghana for West Africa, Ethiopia for east and central Africa and Jordan for the Middle East. On Sept. 24, 1986 an agreement to open an office was signed by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al Hmoud and AARRO Secretary General B.C. Gangopandhyay.

Acting undersecretary of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Mr. Adeb Borgan said that Jordan's regional office will work towards achieving the organisation's objectives of reconstructing the economies of the rural peoples of Afro-Asian countries and to revitalising their social and cultural lives.

Duties and objectives

According to the agreement, the office has several duties to fulfill:

- To develop members' understanding of each other's problems and to collectively explore opportunities for coordinating efforts to promote welfare and eradicate thirst, hunger, illiteracy, disease and poverty among rural people;
- to assist member countries in obtaining financial and technical assistance for their rural development programmes from

financial and specialised agencies such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, various organs of the United Nations, including its specialised agencies and national governmental or non-governmental agencies in developed and developing countries;

- to collaborate with appropriate international and regional organisations, including U.N. agencies, governmental or non-governmental, both in the developed and developing countries, for the purpose of taking action to accelerate the pace of rural development in member countries;

- to assist in the formation and development of organisations for farmers and other rural people and also in the establishment of healthy relationships between them and government agencies responsible for agricultural development and rural reconstruction;
- to consider the possibilities assisting the marketing and exchange of surplus agricultural commodities among members and others;

- to promote cooperative activities in various aspects of life in rural communities;
- to promote the exchange of visits of farmers and experts from one country to another;

- to organise international and regional meetings, seminars, conferences, exhibitions and fairs and produce literature and undertake publicity;
- to initiate studies on subjects of specific or common interest and collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate data, statistics and information useful to members;

- to lay the views of the organisation before any committee, commission or regional or national;
- to raise funds by contributions and donations and hold property, movable or immovable, in any member country or outside.

The regional office will function under the overall control and guidance of the secretary-general of AARRO in New Delhi. An annual work programme for the office will be formulated and implemented after the approval of the secretary general (with the consent of the government). For day to day guidance, the regional office will be under the charge of the ministry, the government, or their authorised nominee, according to the agreement.

Conferences

Every three years, a conference for the AARRO is to be held during which policies and programmes of the organisation are determined. The conferences will also review technical aspects relating to rural development and will serve as a forum for studies, discussions and the exchange of experience. The next conference in 1987 will be held in Amman to assess previous developmental plans and to arrive at the best means to improve rural development in Afro-Asian countries.

Over the years, AARRO has been able to make contributions in a number of fields in rural reconstruction and development. It has established centres which offer training courses and which conduct research on various development issues pertinent to rural reconstruction. Fellowships have been granted to individuals in member countries to participate in the training programmes. National and international conferences and workshops are arranged by AARRO. In addition, AARRO has arranged study visits by specialists of member countries and is ready to finance commissioned studies and surveys on specific problems. It has also helped member countries to embark on pilot projects relevant to their development on a cost-share basis. And finally, AARRO has been regularly disseminating information and data through its various publications among the Afro-Asian countries and others who are interested.

Egypt postpones police conscripts trial

CAIRO (R) — The trial of 162 Egyptian police conscripts charged with rioting, damaging property and murder was postponed until December Sunday by a state security court.

The same court Saturday postponed for one month the trial of a group of 106 police conscripts on similar charges.

The accused, who could face the death penalty, are among 1,324 defendants accused of taking part

in riots last February in which at least 107 people were killed and more than 700 injured.

The government said the police conscripts went on the rampage after hearing rumours that their three-year service would be extended.

Defence lawyers, who demanded the release of all the accused, requested the delay to read documents relating to the case.

They have also asked the court to take evidence from three former interior ministers — Sharawi Gomaa who served until 1971, Nabawi Ismail who served until 1984 and Ahmad Rushdi who was removed by President Hosni Mubarak after the riots.

The prosecution told court that one defendant, identified as Ramadan Ali Ramadan, died in prison from pneumonia.

UAE to get Mirages soon

BAHRAIN (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will soon take delivery of two squadrons of Mirage 2000 jets it has bought from France, Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Maj. Gen. Mohammad Said Al Badi said Sunday.

He made the statement to the Kuwait News Agency in Muscat, capital of Oman, following a two-day meeting there of defence ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The UAE was to have received the first 36 Mirage 2000s ordered in 1984 and 1985 last month, but there has been no official announcement of their arrival.

The defence ministers' meeting coincided with concern over the continuing Iran-Iraq war, now in its seventh year, and its maritime extension, the so-called tanker war in which at least 64 ships have been hit this year by Iran or Iraq.

Athletes say Iranian leaders are anti-sport

BAGHDAD (R) — Four Iranian weightlifters who broke away from their country's team to the Asian Games in Seoul last week were quoted Sunday as saying sport was not appreciated by Iran's Islamic authorities.

Iraqi newspapers carried a report from Seoul quoting Samad Montazeri, Siamak Bajand, Anshir Bahmanyar and Medhi Rezvani as saying they wanted asylum in Iraq because Iran's clergy ignored or prohibited several sports.

Rezvani, who won a games bronze medal in his division, was quoted as saying: "The deterioration of sport in Iran is caused by the ignorance of the mullahs and the fact that they have no relationship with it."

"They place no value on results scored by Iranian sportsmen and have prohibited all women's sport in the country."

Bajand and Bahmanyar said they and a large number of sportsmen were unemployed and "all promises by the Iranian sports

minister to find them jobs to make a living were not fulfilled."

The official Iraqi News Agency said the four took refuge in the Iraqi consulate in Seoul and asked for political asylum.

It said they had expressed a wish to join the Iraqi-based Iranian opposition Mujahideen Movement to "struggle against the Iranian regime."

It was not clear from Sunday's reports if the athletes had yet left Seoul for Baghdad.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:35	Programme review
15:55	Children programme
16:05	Tom Sawyer
16:30	Scientific programme
16:55	Programme on Traffic
17:00	Children programme
17:25	Arab children programme
18:30	Local programme
18:35	Local series
19:35	Wavelength 97.9m World News
19:45	Programme review and varieties
20:05	News in Arabic
20:30	Oman Newsletter
20:40	Arabic series
21:30	Local folk poetry
22:25	Tomorrow's programmes
22:30	Arabic play
23:00	News summary in Arabic
23:10	Play cond.
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Medecins de nuit
19:00	News in French
19:15	Sport magazine
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Living Tomorrow
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	No Place Like Home (Comedy)
21:10	Edge of Darkness
22:00	News in English
22:30	Strangers and Brothers
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.60 KHz. SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:45	Pop Session
11:30	Yes Minister
12:00	News Summary
12:45	Pop Session Contd.
13:00	News Summary
13:45	Pop Session Contd.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	Instrumentals
14:45	Over a Cup of Tea
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Instrumentals
16:45	Old Favourites
17:00	Talking About Music
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:45	Sports Round-up
VOICE OF AMERICA	
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 95.6, 117.40, 119.25 and 152.10 KHz	
06:00	News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listener's Questions, Science Reports, etc.
07:00	News at 30 minutes past the hour, 17:00
08:00	News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA
09:00	News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:30 Newsline 19:50 Magazine Show
20:00	News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:30 Newsline America 21:50 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 MVA USA 22:40 News 23:10 MVA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITION	
Painting exhibition by Janet Venn-Brown at the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition runs through Oct. 10, 1986.	
FEATURE FILM	
"Gone with the Wind" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.	
VIDEO	
Two expert craftsmen, Julia Snedcock and John How, show how to turn a simple goose egg into an item of delicate beauty. At 7:00 p.m. at the British Council.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267 American Centre - 64371 British Council - 6361478 French Cultural Centre - 637089 Goethe Institute - 641993 Soviet Cultural Centre - 642043 Spanish Cultural Centre - 624049 Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777 Hayra Arts Centre - 665195 Finnish Youth City - 6671816 Y.W.C.A. - 664251 Amman Municipal Library - 637111 University of Jordan Library - 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Malaya and Japan (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Closed 1986). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Amman, Jabal Luwaidah. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Tel. 669674.	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:11 Sunrise 09:33 Sunrise 11:25 Sunrise 14:46 Sunset 17:36 Sunset 18:38 Sunset	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

14:05 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
19:25 Jeddah (SV)

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS - ALIA FLIGHTS

06:15 Aqaba (RJ)
06:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
06:30 Kuwait (RJ)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Damascus (RJ)
10:00 Larnaca (RJ)
10:10 Bucharest (RJ)
10:15 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
10:20 Cairo (RJ)
10:45 Bangkok (RJ)
14:00 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER AIRLINES

06:35 Cairo (MS)
09:20 Sana'a (LH)
10:20 Jeddah (SV)
12:00 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
13:30 Kuwait (KU)
18:20 Athens (SV)
18:25 Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES - ALIA FLIGHTS

06:00 Aqaba (RJ)
11:15 Bucharest (RJ)
11:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Paris (RJ)
12:30 Larnaca (RJ)
14:20 Cairo (RJ)
15:00 Kuwait, Bahrain (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:30 Damascus (RJ)
21:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER AIRLINES

06:40 Damascus, Athens (OA)
07:20 Cairo (MS)
09:20 Frankfurt (LH)
11:30 Athens (SV)
13:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Kadi Emerald
— Maru

Amn Kavar and Sons Company, with its new offices in Shamsan, at your service, tel. 603703/5.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates
Local sell-buy rates in J.S.
Belgian franc 81.8/ 83.5
Dutch guilder 150.1/ 151.6
French franc 51.7/ 52.2
Italian lira 24.5/ 24.7
Japanese yen (for 100) 219.8/ 222
Swedish crown 49.5/ 49.9
Swiss franc 209/ 212.2
U.K. sterling pound 489.9/ 495.9
U.S. dollar 340.7/ 343.2
W. German mark 169.4/ 171

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with northwesterly moderate winds. A slight increase in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Amman 13/26
Aqaba 19/31
Dears 12/28
Jordan Valley 21/33

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 23, Aqaba 30. Humidity readings: Amman 49 per cent, Aqaba 29 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan to attend boycott office talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Sunday decided that Jordan will take part in the two-day meetings of the Islamic Bureau for Boycotting Israel which will be held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on Oct. 11. The Cabinet also appointed three members of the private sector to the board of directors of the national aid fund.

Committee prepares for olive harvest

AMMAN (Petra) — Preparations are going ahead for gathering the olive crop and a joint committee grouping the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education, together with representatives of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, has been set up to supervise the harvest. The committee is launching a campaign to enlist the help of schoolchildren to help gather the harvest towards the end of this month. The committee announced that it will inform farmers of exact dates for harvesting olives in each part of the country and the number of available students to help in the work.

Alia launches blood donation campaign

AMMAN (Petra) — The main offices of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, on Sunday organised a blood donation campaign in cooperation with the Jordan Blood Bank. The campaign is a continuation of previous campaigns launched by Alia's friends of the blood bank committee to ensure sufficient blood units for use when necessary arises.

Ministry studying rare tree reserve

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture is conducting a study on establishing a reserve at Fafa, in the southern Jordan Valley, to preserve certain types of very rare trees. A ministry spokesman said that a special committee, set up for supervising the project, has visited the region and submitted recommendations to the minister of agriculture. The committee proposed that the ministry allocate 2,000 dunums of land for their projected reserve in the region.

RSCN team returns from Britain

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) has returned to Amman after attending a meeting in Britain dedicated to discussing means of protecting sea birds. Mr. Maher Abu Jaafar, who led the delegation to the week-long meeting, said that he submitted a report on the situation at Azraq lagoon which attracts migrant birds every year.

Arab ports union official ends visit

AOABA (Petra) — Secretary General of the Union of Arab Ports Ramadan Kalbathi Sunday ended a several-day visit to the Kingdom during which he held talks with Director General of the Jordanian Ports Corporation Eid Al Fayed. Mr. Kalbathi and Mr. Fayed, who also is chairman of the Union of Arab Ports board, discussed issues related to the union's development and preparations for the union's forthcoming board meeting. Both men also discussed the possibilities of the Ports Corporation offering technical assistance and training to member countries of the union.

40 adult education centres open in Ma'an

MA'AN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has said that it opened 40 centres for adult education in Ma'an Governorate to offer education to some 600 people. Last year, the ministry opened 32 adult education centres which offered education to 314 persons, according to Mr. Lafi Qubba, a director of the education in Ma'an. He said that the number of persons joining these centres has increased this year, reflecting people's desire to acquire basic education.

Drug traffickers receive 8-year terms

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Nabil Ibrahim Ahmad Jad to eight years imprisonment for trafficking narcotics. The court also sentenced Mukhtar Abul Mahasen 'Awad to eight years imprisonment on a similar charge. The general military governor endorsed the sentences.

Haj Hassan opens conference on facilities and training for deaf children

AMMAN (J.T.) — The fifth conference of the Arab Union for Deaf Care Societies (AUDCS) opened in Amman on Sunday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor and heard an appeal by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan who called on Arab states to provide better care to handicapped children.

The minister, who deputised for the Queen, said handicapped children should be rehabilitated and trained to become useful and productive citizens.

Jordan has adopted a scientific approach to handling handicapped children over the past decades and has been creating educational and vocational facilities for rehabilitating these less fortunate persons, the minister said. Mr. Haj Hassan said that the society as a whole should give proper care to the children of today, enabling them to confront the needs of development and progress in the future.

The participants, gathered at the Royal Cultural Centre, heard an address from Dr. Ahmad Sabagh, AUDCS's chairman, who said that a handicap should never be an obstacle in the way of any person who should be helped to live a normal life.

Dr. Sabagh urged the Arab World to extend all possible help to handicapped children in order to help them adapt to the needs of



their own society and to live a normal life.

The AUDCS, which was established in 1973, has been doing all it can through coordination with Arab countries, through seminars and conferences, and medical, educational and social research projects to help reduce the effects of deafness on children's lives and it has also been spreading awareness among the public on means of preventing deafness. Dr. Sabagh continued.

He said that over the past two years, AUDCS held contacts with specialised world institutions and organisations to enlist their help and has also worked out programmes with the specialised agencies of the United Nations to help deaf people overcome their handicaps.

Dr. Hassan Badran, chairman of an executive committee for the conference, paid tribute to

AUDCS for its efforts to raise the standard of training for handicapped persons and for helping them adapt to society. This conference assumes significance because it is dedicated to improving the sign language for the deaf, unifying Arab sign languages and endorsing a protocol for safeguarding deaf children's rights and for improving curricula taught at deaf schools in the Arab World, Dr. Badran said.

The meeting is being attended by participants from Britain, Italy, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Oman and Jordan in addition to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The meeting has been organised by the Jordan Charitable Society for the Care of the Deaf (JCSCD), a non-profit group which provides medical, social and educational care to deaf people in Jordan. Queen Noor is the society's honorary president.

Research papers

Several research papers are to be reviewed by the delegates who will discuss a variety of subjects related to deaf affairs. Participants will also make field trips to the JCSCD school for the deaf in Ruseifa, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development's Amal Centre and the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund's centre for the hearing impaired.

Jordan and India — closer ties over the years

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's visit to India, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, issued a statement highlighting Jordanian-Indian trade, technical, cultural and scientific relations which the agency said were being bolstered and strengthened every year.

Petra said that India opened its first trade mission in Amman in the early 1960s and that this was gradually transformed into a full-fledged embassy in 1980.

King Hussein visited India in 1963 and in 1983 to attend meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement in New Delhi, and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan paid four visits to India between 1976 and 1982 and led Jordan's delegation to attend the funeral of the late Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India.

Jordan was visited by the president of India, Dr. Zakir Husain, in 1965 and vice president Hidayatullah paid a visit to Jordan in 1983.

Trade relations

India's exports to Jordan include iron, steel, nuts, cotton seeds, screws and bolts, manual implements, pipes and tea. India buys Jordan's potash and fertilisers and nearly 25 percent of Jordan's total production of phosphates. In 1985, Jordan sold India JD 45.31 million worth of products against JD 1.78 million worth of Indian products sold to Jordan.

Cultural relations

India and Jordan signed an agreement in 1976 providing for cultural exchanges for three years. Under the agreement, Indian universities accept Jordanian students for higher studies and both countries cooperate in

technical and economic affairs.

Cultural, scientific and technical cooperation

India and Jordan signed an agreement in 1985 on promoting bilateral cooperation in technical and scientific fields. In implementation of the agreement, a delegation from the Royal Scientific Society will visit India towards the end of 1986 to discuss scopes of cooperation in scientific and technical affairs.

Indians in Jordan

There are about 4,000 Indian nationals in Jordan at present and most are employed as furses, technicians and labourers working for Jordanian and foreign businesses.

Housing for low-income groups to be given priority in 5-year plan

Jordan marks U.N. international habitat day today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan needs a total of 23,000 housing units to address the housing needs of average and low-income citizens, director general of the Housing Corporation Shafiq Zawaideh said on Sunday.

Mr. Zawaideh attributed the lack of housing for average and low income groups to the 1980-1985 five-year development scheme in which the private sector had no role in providing low-cost housing. "The private sector was only responding to the housing demands of high-income groups," said Mr. Zawaideh.

Speaking during a press conference to mark the United Nations General Assembly International Housing Day, Mr. Zawaideh said his corporation is currently building good quality housing units at low prices.

The corporation's total indebtedness, Mr. Zawaideh said, totalled JD 83 million, out of which JD 63 million is owed to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), and JD 15 million and JD 5 million are owed to the Housing Bank and the Social Security Corporation respectively.

The Housing Corporation's first large-scale housing scheme for average-income citizens was the Abu Nuseir Housing project, completed at the end of last year. Mr. Zawaideh continued. He said that 20 per cent of the Abu Nuseir's units are presently occupied. Corporation sources said the Abu Nuseir units had risen in price and that this had been a major factor affecting the occupancy and Mr. Zawaideh told reporters that the Housing Corporation had to build 34,000 metres of retaining walls at the Abu Nuseir project site.

Social survey

The corporation is currently conducting a social survey for the Kingdom's various regions to assess citizens' preferences for housing types and cost. "We hope to benefit from the survey through analysing citizens' needs and

defining the cost price before major housing projects are launched," said Mr. Zawaideh, reassuring reporters that his organisation's present policy is to take note of the failures at the Abu Nuseir project in terms of cost pricing.

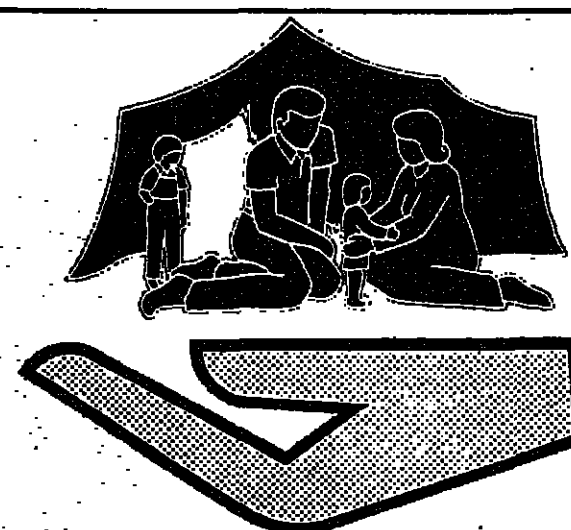
During the press conference, Mr. Zawaideh said that 25 per cent of the world's total population need housing and that 20 per cent of the globe's population can not afford to run a house, even if it was offered to them for free, since they lack the financial means of maintaining a house.

Mr. Zawaideh said that in

response to the United Nations' international housing day which is on the first Monday of each October, his corporation will hold a symposium on housing policies in Jordan to open Monday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The symposium, to open at the Royal Cultural Centre, is in implementation of United Nations General Assembly recommendations urging nations to give proper attention to housing and it aims at identifying the real problems of housing prior to drawing up proper solutions for them, he said.

Eighty participants from 30 different institutions will take part in the seminar, which is organised by the Housing Corporation and the Housing Bank together with the Jordanian Engineers Association and the Urban Development Department.



اليوم العالمي للسكان
World Habitat Day

Glorious traditions of calligraphy captured in jewelry

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The art of calligraphy and the craft of goldsmithing coupled together represent some of the most memorable jewelry produced in the contemporary Arab World. The glorious tradition of swirling lines varying from rounded symmetry to the almost architectural vertical, indicate the enormous historical range of calligraphic styles developed in Arabic. When translated into jewelry, such artefacts are generally made in silver or gold and often include the additional highlight of precious stones — sapphires, emeralds or rubies. Most of such works of art generally use first names and sometimes religious messages and usually take the form of pendants or brooches.

Each city has its master craftsmen and in Amman an unassuming young man, Edward Habib, is widely considered the resident expert. His work is finely executed — letters sometimes parted by a mere millimetre — and beautifully designed in the best Arab tradition.

Edward is, however, more than an expert in his chosen field. He is an outstanding example of a young man who has overcome physical disabilities to lead a normal life. At the age of five he contracted the crippling disease of polio. He attended a special school in the West Bank for paralysed children and later finished his schooling at a vocational training centre in Amman where he learnt the art of jewelry making.

Like most young men, Edward has complete claims to his own life. "Without my brothers and family, I would never have become what I am today," he

says. Mrs. Widad Kawa, one of the founders of the handicraft centre at the Third Circle where Edward's work is sold, was also, "a great encourager," he adds.

Edward's life of independence led him to learn to drive a car and in 1981 he was chosen to represent Jordan in the International Abilitylympics. He also designed the Jordanian emblem, a bold and magnificent calligraphy, for the Jordanian team.

Edward works at home in a neat, airy workshop under the watchful eye of his pretty wife Haim. The room is covered with many examples of his work from large brass wall plaques to tiny pieces of jewelry and literally thousands of paper patterns used in calligraphy.

Design and execution

The making of such artefacts involves two processes. Firstly the artistic with the drawing of the design. This requires a knowledge of Arabic calligraphy coupled with an eye to the artistic potential inherent in each word. Edward also designs in the Latin alphabet, a task which on the whole he believes is simpler. Next follows the execution of the craft. The design on paper is glued to a squared gold section. Laboriously, Edward cuts out each minute blank with a tiny hand saw using a blade so thin it is next to invisible. The process is time consuming, even a small object may take up to five hours and the job requires a steady hand and an astute eye. When cutting is complete the paper pattern is soaked off in water and the new object is buffed to a high polish with a small motorised polisher.

The cost of such artefacts, although dependent on the fluctuating price of gold, is minimal given the amount of skill

involved in producing them. "Names," says Edward, "average around twenty-five dinars," more ornate pieces with larger messages range, "between thirty and forty dinars." Silver products are even more reasonable, particularly at present with the decline in the international price of silver.

Styles of script

The art of calligraphy is an ancient one in the Arab World as Edward points out. The first style of script, Kufic, developed in the Iraqi city of Kufah around 635 A.D. It is more or less square and angular style with a majestic and measured pace. Later in the 11th Century, the Naskhi script evolved a more cursive approach to calligraphy based on the laws governing the specific distance and proportions between letters.

From the Naskhi script the large and imposing Thuluth calligraphy developed. In the 13th Century, the Mamluks of Egypt produced the Tumar script and around the same time the Arabs of Spain developed Maghribi or Western calligraphy.

In the 13th Century, the Persians too developed the beautiful Ta'liq or suspension mode in which each word has a tendency to drop from the preceding one. Later, the famous calligrapher Mir Ali of Tabriz evolved Nasta'liq, a combination of Naskhi and Ta'liq styles.

Ottoman Turkey too played a significant role in the development of calligraphy. The Divani style as it is known was used throughout the Turkish Chancery. It is predictably highly mannered and difficult to read.

The Turkish innovation of Tugra, stylized ciphers based upon the various sultans' names, has played a pre-eminent role in the development of Edward's craft.

Each sultan had his name worked into a magnificent intricate, yet fluid, cursive design. Several are frequently reproduced as gold jewelry today and many of the "names" created in contemporary designs are clearly inspired by the bold and regal calligraphy of the Ottoman court.

When Edward sits to design, he believes it is imperative to relax. "I never work quickly. I take my time on each small aspect," he says, "and I always strive for 100 per cent excellence. I wouldn't compromise my work for either more money or a shoddy piece."

Edward clearly loves his craft and reminiscent of the millenniums of Arab calligraphers and craftsmen he works at an unhurried pace achieving inner satisfaction by creating an object of beauty which will charm the beholder for generations to come.

MUSIC LESSONS

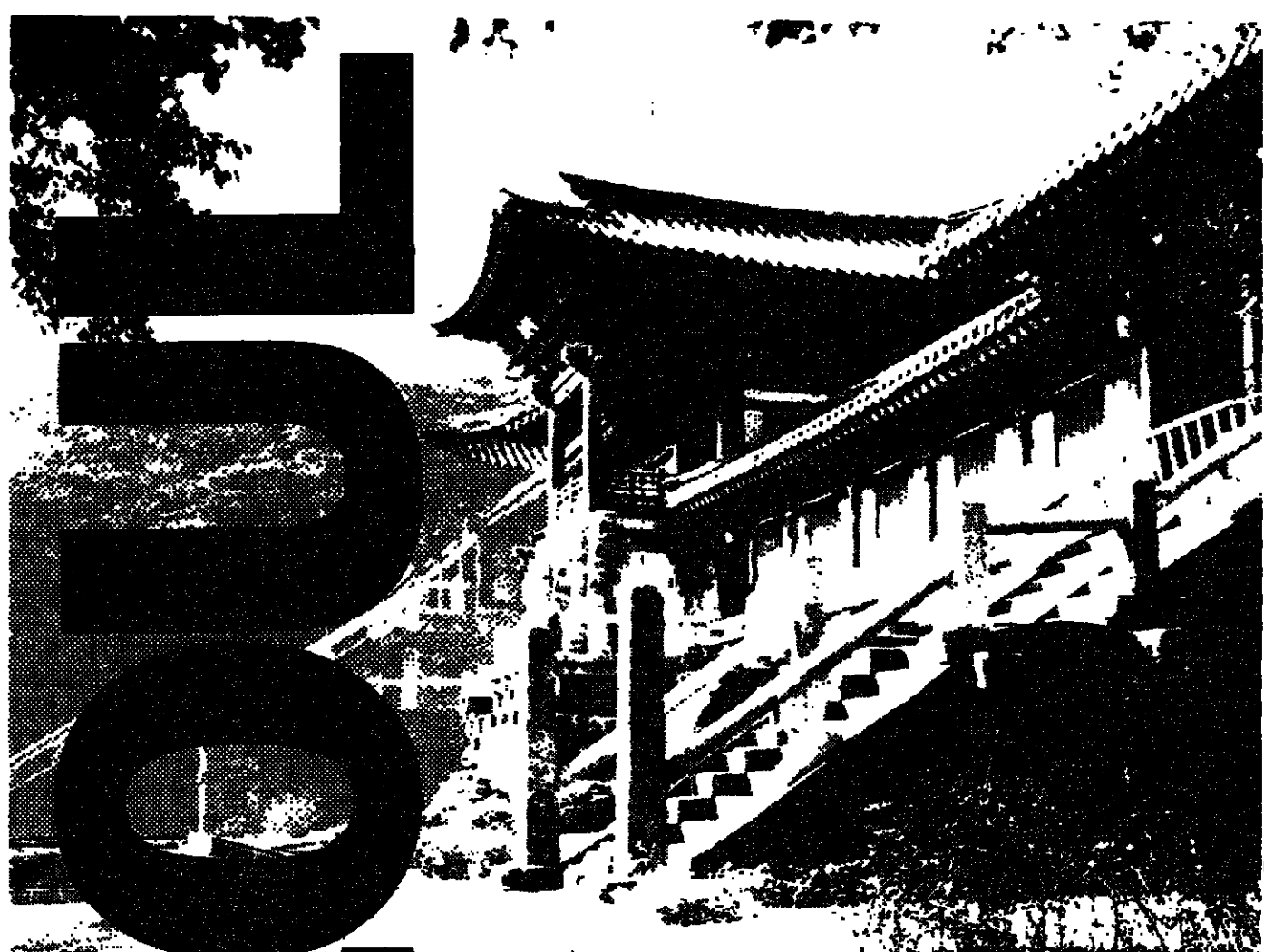
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An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Where's the proof?

ISRAELI Premier Shimon Peres — like a whale nearing the waters where the plankton run thick — becomes more frisky as he nears the end of his term as head of the Israeli coalition government. Now that he has to turn over the premiership to the Likud's Yitzhak Shamir in a few days, he has started saying things such as that he would pursue peace talks with the Arab World even at the expense of breaking up the coalition. We are not sure if the proper response to this sort of thing is to clap, to despair, or simply to ignore it as part of the theatrics that are such a strong part of Israeli politics.

One's genuine hope is that Mr. Peres is sincere, and that he really would adopt a peace posture that would respond substantively to the willingness of Jordan, Syria, the PLO and the other concerned Arab parties to negotiate a genuine peace at an international conference. We have hoped for this for years, but as yet to no avail. So what should we expect now from a Mr. Peres who suddenly acts as if, in his last month in office as prime minister, he wants to cover as much of the Holy Land as Abraham and Moses did in several hundred years?

Is Mr. Peres the sort of political leader who would lead his people to explore new territory in the search for genuine peace and justice? He has hinted, but not proved conclusively, that he could be. But when the essential issue of Palestinian national rights comes up, with the related issue of Israel's withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967, he loses his bravado, and retreats into the convenient headline positions that reject talks with the PLO, reject a full withdrawal, reject Palestinian national self-determination and reject Palestinian sovereignty.

So is it any surprise that we are unsure how to react to Shimon Peres when he suddenly, not only wears his peace hat, but starts waving it around in a mad frenzy? If peace is more important than the coalition to Mr. Peres, we look forward to seeing some proof of this in the coming months.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arabs hold the key to peace

THE switch in the Israeli political leadership expected over the coming few days should not and cannot change Jordan's firm stands. Jordan, regardless of who is prime minister in Israel, is firmly committed to supporting the rights of the Palestinian people and the return of Arab land in exchange for peace. Therefore, Jordan is committed to total peace and cannot accept partial solutions; and will also seek the convening of an international conference to achieve comprehensive peace. Whether Shamir or Peres were at the head of the Israeli government there can be no solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict unless the Israelis agreed to recognise the rights of the Arabs in their homeland. Any hardened Israeli positions cannot and would not deter Jordan from seeking right and justice and from continuing its drive to achieve a strong united Arab stand that can maintain the struggle for regaining Arab right, and lands. Only when the Arabs are united and backed by intrinsic power are they able to open new horizons for peace and force the Israeli enemy to succumb to international community will. Therefore, the Arabs would commit a grave blunder if they attached hope for peace on any one political party in Israel, because they alone hold the key to peace. The Arabs should also be undaunted by any extremist stance which Shamir and his coming government may adopt in dealing with the Arab states.

Al Düstour: Deputies support government

LOWER House of Parliament members representing West Bank constituencies yesterday declared their total support for the government's decisions benefiting the Arab people in the occupied Arab land. These deputies said in a statement that the government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai acted wisely by endorsing the appointment of three Arabs to head municipality committees on the West Bank to replace Israeli army officers, who had caused much harm to Arab people's interests. They said that the government's decision to re-open Jordanian banks on the West Bank is bound to have beneficial results, since such banks would enable Arab residents to shun Israeli banks and avoid Israeli-imposed high interest rates on loans required for development projects. The presence of Arab banks is a way of protecting Arab people's interests and a channel for financing Arab economic projects. The government's decision to implement a five-year development plan in the West Bank drew enthusiastic support and backing from these deputies who see in such a plan as a means of sustaining Arab presence and supporting the people's steadfastness and resistance to Israeli arbitrary measures. We sincerely hope that government's projects will bear fruit and be implemented as soon as possible for the benefit of Arab residents and for safeguarding national rights.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan's commitment

AS Prime Minister Zaid Rifai explained in his interview with Monte Carlo radio on Thursday the strong links between both banks of Jordan have been maintained and strengthened over the years despite the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. Struggling to protect Palestinian people's rights and interests and maintaining the Arab character of the occupied territory will remain the cornerstone in Jordan's policies. The prime minister made it clear that the cohesion between the peoples of the two banks and Jordan's keenness on strengthening the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli rule have helped the Palestinians to remain steadfast and firm in their own land, regardless of the arbitrary measures directed against them by the Israeli occupation authorities. Therefore, intensifying Jordan's support for Arab brothers on the West Bank and extending further help to them can by no means indicate a change in Jordan's stand or objective. Jordan's continued support for the Palestinian people in the West Bank which previously had been carried out through cooperation and coordination of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee, has no doubt kept the flame of resistance strong and brilliant all these years and prevented the Israelis from cutting the Arab people off from the rest of the Arab Nation. Endorsing the appointment of Arab heads of committees to run municipalities in the West Bank and extending more help to the Arab residents there do not mean seeking substitutes for the PLO, but only reflect Jordan's commitment to its firm national stands.

Arab-Israeli peace and the doctrine of strategic parity

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

Sept. 30, 1986 all three Jordanian Arabic newspapers carried a statement made by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to a visiting Jordanian press delegation. President Assad was reported as saying that the proposed international conference on the Middle East could drag on for 20 years of talks and deliberations without any result unless the Arabs unite and achieve strategic balance with Israel.

Only a day after President Assad's remark, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz stated in no unclear terms, upon receiving a delegation of Arab foreign ministers attending the current U.N. General Assembly, that the U.S. government still has reservations about convening such a conference. Yitzhak Shamir, premier-designate of Israel, the interlocutor with the Arab side, is now on record as being against the convening of such a conference and had described it as wasteful and time consuming, nothing

more and nothing else. Britain is already talking along the lines that much preparations and consultations are needed before one can adequately and seriously convene the proposed conference. This stand and those of Israel and the U.S. are further credence to the Syrian President's estimation that such a conference would consume easily some twenty years unless the Arab position is basically rectified.

Egypt, having no more territories of its own under occupation can at best play the catalyst role in any such conference. It is also on record as agreeing to a proposal that a preparatory committee be established to prepare for the convening of the contemplated conference. And as everyone familiar with the United Nations and its conferences would agree, if one wants to kill an idea, he will be well advised to suggest the creation of a U.N. committee to prepare for the unsought after general meeting.

The Soviet Union is at best a lukewarm supporter to the idea of the conference as they are masters at international diplomacy (as well as realist and pragmatist) and they know too well that not much can come out of such a gathering. Of course, and as usual, they are highly supportive of anything the Arabs want, but in view of the emerging Syrian assessment of the proposed conference, one has to think twice before making a final conclusion about the Soviet position and stand on the conference for the Middle East. It must be kept in mind at all times in this context that Syria is the closest Arab ally of the Soviets, and one therefore, would have to postpone final judgment on the Soviet outlook till one is more sure of the Syrian assessment of the proposed meeting between the Arabs and the Israelis under the United Nations umbrella. Certainly, the Soviet Union is also motivated by a desire and perhaps a determination to regain its natural role in the politics of the

Middle East. But as the price that the United States and Israel are trying to extricate from the Soviets at this moment in return for its participation at the illusive conference on the Middle East is too high, I believe that the Soviet Union would rather forego such participation at this time.

The French government appears to be generally supportive, but being an old hand at diplomacy, I think that they subscribe to the same thoughts that the British government is outlining with regard to the holding of such a conference to resolve the Middle East conflict, namely, that preparations and consultations must precede the conference.

As for China, the fifth permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, it appears that China is solidly behind the Arab position and stand if they could understand well what is that Arab position and stand. I believe that they assess the Arab situation as still unsettled

and unamplified.

Last, but not least, the stand and position of the PLO which everybody upholds as among the primary parties to the conflict with the exception of Israel, is still in question. It appears to me that the position of the PLO on the subject of the conference is being put on hold pending further clarifications about its true role in the projected negotiations under the United Nations umbrella. Thus, the total picture is anything but clear and settled.

Over and above the foregoing, the Arab parties projected to take part in the negotiations under the U.N. umbrella are pinning their hopes on the international conference as a mechanism to enhance and promote their collective bargaining position vis-a-vis Israel. While Israel, in turn, is dependent on the actual absence of a unified Arab position and the inexistence of a common negotiating strategy among the Arabs based on prior meeting of minds to coordinate and

synchronise different roles by respective Arab participants. While such an Arab understanding and coordination is woefully absent and lacking at this time there seems to be no hope in the foreseeable future for a consensus. Some of the Arab parties which are destined to enter the negotiations are not even on talking terms with one another, much less coordinate and synchronise and agree on a common negotiating strategy. If there is ever a case where the cart is being put before and ahead of the horse, it is this Arab situation.

I humbly submit that the Arabs to be involved in the peace process must hold their mini conference first and see if they can manage to talk to one another sensibly and coherently before they begin to entertain seriously the idea of calling for an international conference which is becoming more and more like a mirage among the many other mirages which are clouding the thinking of Arab officialdom.

Britain's Labour Party unites for expected 1987 election fight

By Colin McIntyre
Reuter

BLACKPOOL, England — Britain's opposition Labour Party has emerged from its most successful and harmonious annual conference for years looking in good shape for general elections expected next year.

Instead of the wrangles and public feuding that has marked previous Labour conferences, and helped keep them out of power, the party presented an image of family unity as it approved a package of measures reflecting a new-found pragmatism.

Delegates were clearly impressed by recent polls which have consistently put Labour ahead of the ruling Conservatives, and there was an unmistakable feeling that after seven years in opposition, the party was on the road back to government.

As one commentator put it:

"There is nothing like the scent of electoral victory to clear the mind."

Party organisers recognised that to win back the 140 seats separating Labour from the Conservatives in the 650-seat parliament, it needs the support of the middle classes, particularly the newly-affluent under-40s.

This is a constituency that is also being ardently wooed by the centrist Liberal/Social Democratic Alliance, though differences over defence policy between the two partners may have damaged their electoral prospects.

Much of the success of the conference was due to smooth presentation and careful stage-management by a new hard-nosed public relations team. To some veteran conference watchers, it looked almost like a Conservative gathering.

Out went the traditional red flag symbol of International Socialism, with its Marxist overtones, to be replaced by a delicate red rose. The usual red background behind the speakers' platform was changed to a soothing beige.

Outspoken left-wingers who have dominated previous conferences with acrimonious attacks on the leadership were positioned out of the limelight. Few were called to speak, and then mainly on non-controversial issues.

The far left bogey represented by the Trotskyist militant tendency wing which was blamed for Labour's defeat in 1983 was laid to rest on the first day of the conference when it overwhelmingly endorsed the expulsion of eight prominent militant members.

On two sensitive issues, proposals to scrap both nuclear

arms and power plants — though the latter proposal would be gradual — the leadership got its way as more radical motions from the floor were decisively rejected.

The proposals would make Labour Britain's first anti-nuclear government if it comes to power.

Clearly the trade unions, which control nearly 80 per cent of all the votes, had been converted to the new line before the conference. One union alone has nearly a million votes, a sixth of the total.

Much of the credit for Labour's transformation must go to its 44-year-old leader Neil Kinnock, who took over the party in 1983 when it was at its lowest ebb, wracked by internal feuding and dominated by the hard left.

But the party itself appears to have changed as well. As the Guardian newspaper commented: "Left-of-centre politics in this

country have actually moved on from the era of dogmas and sectarianism."

"It isn't just Mr. Kinnock who has been rethinking. The unions, the constituencies and the pressure groups have been rethinking too."

The old Labour favourite of nationalising major firms, banks and utilities has been replaced by the idea of "social ownership," where ordinary investors can have a stake in the company. A few years ago the idea would have been branded dangerously revisionist.

The party voted to increase pensions and other social benefits, introduce a minimum wage and seek to redistribute wealth more equitably through the tax system. But it also heard a sobering message from the leadership — that wage restraint and hard work was needed if British industry was

to be competitive. The only slight hiccup in the proceedings was over defence, which is emerging as a major election issue.

Old wounds were briefly reopened when foreign affairs spokesman Denis Healey appeared to qualify the party's proposal to scrap nuclear weapons and close U.S. nuclear bases.

Labour believes the new plan, made more presentable by including in it a commitment to fulfil Britain's obligations to NATO and a pledge to boost its conventional arms arsenal, is a vote winner.

Many commentators are not so sure. The Conservatives, who are firmly committed to replacing Britain's ageing Polaris nuclear missile with the costly American Trident system, will make much of the claim that they are the only party with a coherent defence strategy.

In Egypt, fundamentalists' institutions are rivaling the state's

By John Kifner
New York Times

ASYUT, Egypt — "Islam is growing stronger," chanted the tiny girl with the microphone, a fifth grader in pigtails and a green school uniform.

"O God, I ask, please reply to our prayers," came the response from several hundred students of the Al Andalus primary school, lined up in neat rows in the courtyard's dappled shade. "We are using our heads to build a stairway for Islam."

The school is one of three private Islamic primary schools in this dusty city on the west bank of the Nile in Upper Egypt, where the government university has become a well-known stronghold of Islamic fundamentalism.

It represents a striking new trend in the growing Islamic movement here: the establishment of religiously oriented institutions that parallel those set up by the state.

At the entrance to the school, two young women, their heads modestly wrapped in the hijab, or Islamic covering, sat at a table piled with books and papers welcoming parents and students to the new term. On the walls around them were posters. A clenched fist

was labeled "Islam is the power." Next to it "youth" was symbolised by a brawny boy standing in front of a mosque with a scimitar in one hand and a Koran in the other.

A sign on one side of the doorway said, "This is what the Prophet Mohammed brought to us," showing a sword and a Koran. On the other side said, "We need Islam — no East, no West" and showed crossed-out Soviet and U.S. flags and a figure in green, the colour of Islam, reaching out toward the holiest site in Mecca.

Inside, the children squirmed into their seats in their neat uniforms, the book bags beside them. Most of the young girls were bare-headed, for they need not cover their hair until they reach maturity. A few wore what one of the men running the school referred to as a "Training hijab."

The women teachers were dressed in long gray smocklike garments with cowls showing only their faces, leading the scene a strong resemblance to a parochial school in the United States.

Mahmoud Ahmed, a civil engineering professor and organizer of the school, describing the Islamic movement's goal of challenging the government, said: "We are doing this to give an example to the society of the

Islamic way."

In addition to schools, the parallel Islamic institutions include health clinics and small hospitals, often attached to a mosque; Islamic banks and social insurance plans; and businesses run along Islamic principles.

The businesses range from fast-food carts on the streets of neighbourhoods in Cairo to major enterprises like the Sharif plastics manufacturer, some financed by Islamic fundamentalists who grew wealthy working in Saudi Arabia and invested their money back home. There are even boutiques with Islamic fashions.

Many of the Islamic institutions play off the poor quality of most services run by the government, whose offices, schools and hospitals tend to be filthy, crowded and inefficient.

Ali Dessouki, a Cairo University sociology professor who was one of the first to chronicle the phenomenon, said, "These Islamic groups are competing now for the loyalty of the average citizen, of the layman."

"They are not necessarily pushing for a political confrontation," he said, "but rather seeking to gain the support of the average Egyptian one by

one, inch by inch, through the provision of welfare facilities, Islamic schools, Islamic clinics, technical schools, economic institutions for profit, social insurance, monthly payments for the poor. All of this provides inroads to a broader strata of the population."

"What we are seeing is an alternative society in formation, an alternative society being born gradually and incrementally. They are making use of the deterioration of the government services, there is a societal vacuum that they are filling."

A young woman in Cairo

agreed: "I'd much rather go to an Islamic hospital than a government one, the way they treat you there." Her tight yellow slacks and coiffed hair gave scant indication of religious sensibilities.

Mohammed Sid Ahmed, a leftist critic of Egyptian society who is worried by the fundamentalist movement, attributes its appeal not only to the failures of government and ideology but also to what he calls the "corrupting effect" of "the trickle-down of oil money, the product of neither civilisation, history nor labour."

"By coming out strongly against

the current perversion of values, radical Islam has found a strong response among widespread masses," he wrote recently, noting the emergence of Islamic schools, hospitals, banks, and house cooperatives.

"Although the benefits of such projects accrue only to the 'believers,' thus developing a 'society within the society,'" he went on, "these Islamic ventures have proved to be very effective in recruiting followers to the movement, could partly explain the surprising increase in the number of veiled women in recent years."

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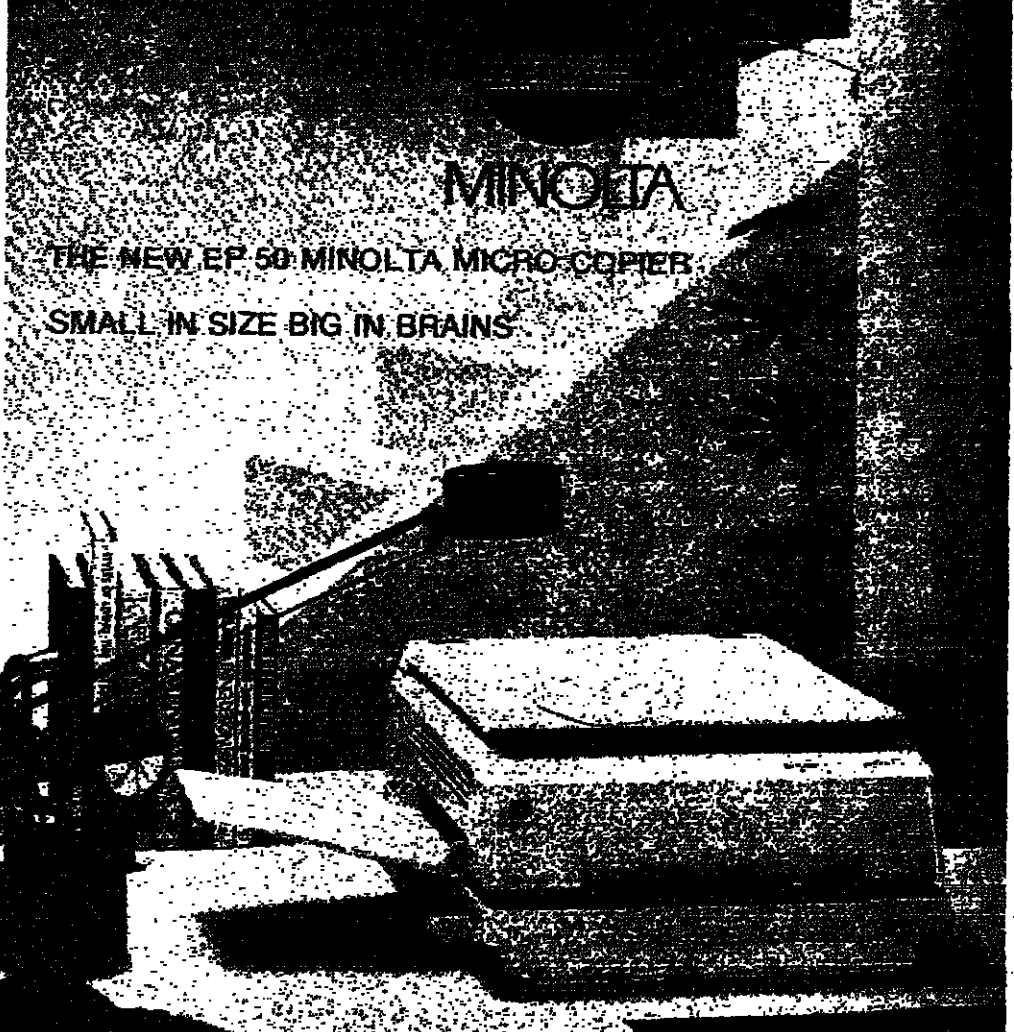
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Scholars debate history, role of Roman fortress Da'janiya

Text and Photos
By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

THE Roman fortress at Da'janiya in south Jordan, one of the largest and best preserved of the several dozen Roman military structures in the country, has recently attracted the attention of scholars of Jordan's Roman period.

The Da'janiya fortress is located about two kilometres west of the desert highway, and is easily reached on a paved road and dirt track from the village of Hashimiyyeh, just north of the turnoff from the desert highway to Shobak and Petra.

The site, visited by 19th century travellers such as C.M. Doughty, was first systematically examined and planned in 1897 by the pioneering German team of R.E. Brunnow and A. Von Domaszewski, whose plan and theories of the fortress formed the basis of all modern accounts of Da'janiya.

In the last decade, however, half a dozen scholars of Roman Arabia have re-examined various aspects of the fortress, rekindling a lively debate about the date and purpose of what is the third largest Roman military structure in Jordan. Only the Roman legionary fortresses at Udrum and Lejjun are larger than Da'janiya.

The most extensive work at Da'janiya was carried out in 1985 and 1986 by the British scholar Philip Freeman, a doctoral candidate and temporary lecturer at Sheffield University in Great Britain. He and a small team of colleagues re-examined the fortress with several aims in mind: to confirm the accuracy of Brunnow and Domaszewski's plan, to elaborate on their identification of the site's extensive structures, both inside and outside the fortification walls, to collect more pottery sherds to help date the site, and to gather better evidence for the type of garrison the Romans stationed at Da'janiya.

While they have met all these objectives, debate continues about when Da'janiya was first built, what kind of garrison it housed, and how long it remained in service.

Their survey has confirmed that most of the dimensions of Brunnow and Domaszewski's plan of Da'janiya were accurate, though the site is not the neat, regular shaped square structure they published. As Mr. Freeman told the Jordan Times in a recent interview here, "the fortress may be more accurately described as something akin to a parallelogram, with a slightly irregular basic shape."

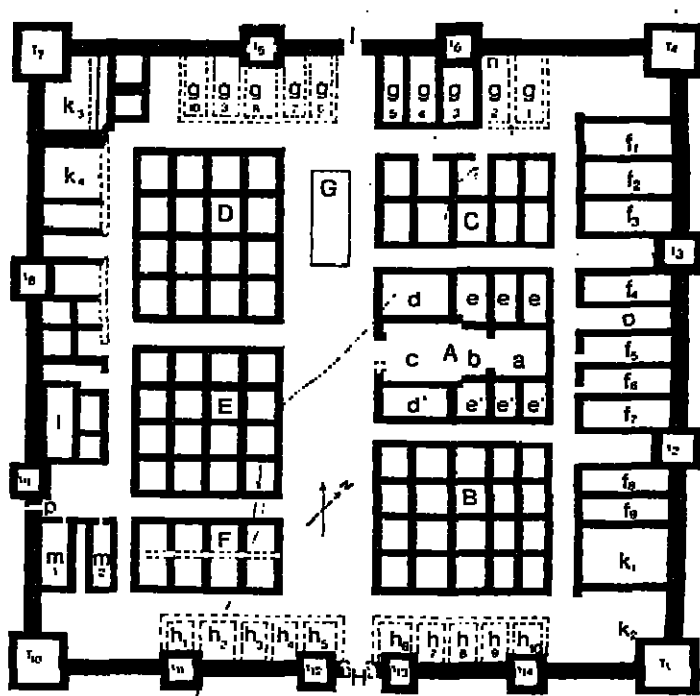
The fortress, aligned on a north-east/south-west axis, is a nearly square structure measuring 100.79 by 100.18 metres. The outer walls average 2.25 metres in thickness, and are built of small, roughly cut basalt and limestone blocks composed of two faces of masonry, laid in mortar with a rubble fill. The enclosure wall and the internal building walls were originally plastered, as evidenced by fragments of white plaster still visible in some areas.

The walls, originally thought to have stood about 4.7 metres high, still stand 3-4 metres high in places. Though much of the fortress has collapsed, most of the original stones are still on the ground, making a visit to Da'janiya a most enjoyable experience for antiquities enthusiasts, as the original features of the fortress can still be made out very easily.

The fortress had three entrances: their main entrance in the south-east wall, flanked by four square interval towers; another large entrance in the north-west wall, flanked by two towers; and a small entrance adjacent to a tower in the south-west wall, which gave access to the large cistern outside the fortress. The arch over the small south-west gate still stands.

There are also large, square towers at the four corners of the fortification wall. Each was three stories high when first built, though today only the ground stories and access ways to the upper floors still remain.

The main entrance in the south-east wall gave onto the *via principalis*, the 13.7-metre-wide main road through the centre of the fortress. Also running through the interior of the fortress was the *via sagularis*, which wound



Plan of the Da'janiya fortress based on Brunnow and Domaszewski's plan, which has since been corrected by Philip Freeman's work. The main entrance in the south-east wall is marked "H". The sole remaining intact gate is the small portal marked "p". The internal cistern is marked "G", and the principia building is marked "A".

between the main buildings inside Da'janiya.

The survey of the interior of the fortress by Mr. Freeman's team has clarified many of the buildings that Brunnow and Domaszewski first identified. These include several barracks blocks for cavalry, infantry and officers, stables, storehouses and granaries, the *principia*, or legionary headquarters, and armories.

From the many roof tiles that have been found on the site, we know that at least some of the buildings were roofed with tiles. Mr. Freeman found several thresholds of barracks blocks, and clarified the internal layout of the *principia* and some of the stables.

Beneath the *via principalis*, at its north-western end, is an underground cistern measuring 13.8 by 5.55 metres, recognisable today because its roof has collapsed. A re-used threshold block in the cistern's retaining wall and tile fragments in the fill of the cistern wall suggest that at least parts of the fortress underwent a

second phase of reconstruction well after the initial building phase. This is also indicated by the use of regular limestone blocks on top of the existing basalt wall in the north-west wall, west of the gate.

Brunnow and Domaszewski had identified the foundations of two structures outside the south-east fortification walls. These round and rectangular structures were confirmed by Mr. Freeman, who suggests that one of them may have been a Nabataean tower that predated the fortress.

He also noted a third, probably more modern structure in the same vicinity, an eroded mud-brick building which had some roofing tiles in its foundation, possibly re-used from the original fortress.

The rectangular pool, tucked away behind a small hill south-east of the fortress, has been recently reconstructed in cement for use by local villagers and bedouin. Some of the original stones can still be seen in the lower courses of the walls. Flash flooding in recent years has exposed some stone block channels north of the fortress, presumably part of the system that brought water into the fortress.

There is no epigraphic evidence to shed light on the original Roman name of the fortress or clarify its garrison. Brunnow and Domaszewski, and scholars today, assume the fortress accommodated a garrison of around 500 infantry, cavalry and officers, along with their horses or camels. There is considerable disagreement, however, on the founding date of the fortress.

Mr. Freeman believes it was founded just after the Roman annexation of Arabia in 106 A.D., during the reigns of the emperors Trajan or Hadrian in the early-mid 2nd century A.D. Professor Glyn Bowersock of Princeton University, author of the recent book *Roman Arabia*, feels it was established as late as the 6th century A.D.

Dr. Tom Parker, a Roman period specialist who has excavated the Lejjun fortress and

other Roman sites in the area, feels it was founded during the 2nd century A.D. His surface shoring of Da'janiya produced pottery from the early and late Roman, Byzantine and the Mamluke and Ottoman periods, suggesting that the fortress was occupied from about the time of the Roman annexation until the early 6th century A.D.

James Lander, another specialist in Roman fortifications, believes Da'janiya was established in the late 2nd/early 3rd century A.D. Most scholars accept that the standing remains of the fortress reflect late 3rd and 4th century architecture, which might mean the fortress may have been reconstructed several centuries after its original founding.

Other than the pottery, datable artifacts found at the site include a bronze coin of Galeria Valeria, daughter of the Emperor Diocletian, minted at Alexandria between 308-310 A.D. Mr. Freeman found two other coins during this year's work, though these have not yet been cleaned to provide dating evidence.

When the fortress went out of use and was abandoned is also unclear, though most scholars accept that it was still in use after the 4th century A.D. It may have been destroyed by earthquakes, for it lies in a known seismic zone, or it may have been abandoned during the Byzantine reorganisation of the Arabian frontier defences by the early 6th century A.D.

Only future excavations will clarify these points. Dr. Tom Parker plans to excavate the fortress in the coming few years, as part of his project to study the Roman defensive system along the Arabian frontier.

The fortress now lies about three kilometres west of the desert highway. In the Roman period, it was also strategically located about 15-20 kilometres east of the *via nova traina*, the main Roman road that connected the southern port of Aqaba (Roman Aila) with Amman (Philadelphia) and Bosra, the capital of the province of Roman Arabia, in south Syria.

This year, Mr. Freeman's team also discovered a 150-metre-long stretch of a secondary Roman road that connected the fortress at Udrum with the area around the modern settlement of Jurf Ed-darwish. Alongside this stretch of road, about 1.5 kilometres north-east of the fortress, they also discovered an unscrubbed Roman milestone. Stretches of the same secondary road had been reported in the area earlier this century, and this latest discovery helps clarify the road system of Roman Arabia.

There was a small Roman fort at Jurf Ed-darwish, measuring some 36 metres square, though it is now difficult to discern because it is almost totally covered in blown sand. It sits in a low area next to the wadi, between the desert highway and the village, less than 100 metres from the highway. In the late Roman and early Byzantine period, this small fort was complemented by a series of watchtowers on the hills to the east.

The purpose of the Da'janiya fortress, the fort and watchtowers at Jurf Ed-darwish, and the dozens of other similar facilities in this area was to protect this stretch of the Roman road system in south Jordan, as well as to help assure the security of the area against marauding desert-based tribes from the east.

Randa Habib's Corner

False hopes?

OCTOBER, in this part of the world, has always had rainy days. One or two days at least. A taste of winter but not winter itself, as the sun soon shines again. There is no reason to get overexcited about those few rainy days as they in no way constitute real signs of a good rainy season. There is an Arabic saying that translates like this: "The tail of September is always wet." And thus people normally anticipate rain during the last days of September. What really amazes me is why should officials of various concerned departments rush to the media — TV, radio and newspapers — to predict and forecast the arrival of good rainy seasons? Do those officials have their forecasting on any real scientific research for example? Do we have in this country a long-term climate and weather forecasting institute that we are not aware of? The relationship between people and rain in this region has been subject for science and superstition for thousands of years. The cycle of seven lean years and seven good ones was a subject that was reported in the Bible and the Holy Koran to have occupied peoples' minds for centuries since the days of Egypt's Pharaohs. An early rain in September or in October has never been an indication of a good season. We should not create false hopes in peoples' minds, especially farmers'.

We all wish for a good winter which would solve our water problems. But talking about rain never brings it. So, once again, maybe because we are superstitious, and in order to avoid ironic remarks and embarrassing situations, let the rain alone. And maybe then our winter will be what we wish it to be.

A sorry tale of death and deception

Far more blacks than whites die in accidents in South Africa's mines. After the recent tragedy, Jim Jones recalls his time as a mining engineer in the country and presents some startling statistics.

JOHANNESBURG — Twenty years ago, shortly after I arrived in South Africa to work as a mining engineer, a young white trainee miner was killed in my section of the Western Areas (WA) gold mine. No-one was to blame for his death but himself. He had been walking on the wrong side of a tunnel and was crushed against the wall by a slow-moving ore train.

Although no-one was to blame for his death, the mine regularly economised by keeping miners short of stores and equipment, and there were no safety signs in the place the young fellow was crushed. That changed fast.

Within hours, well before the official accident inspectors arrived on the scene, special teams of mine officials were on the spot installing adequate lighting, putting up safety signs, carefully re-whitewashing the walls around the bloodstains and making sure that everyone knew what to tell the inspectors.

I was not asked to attend the post-mortem examination, though I was technically responsible for the accident, and the investigators found that no-one was to blame for the death. The WA mine in those days had one of the worst casualty records of the industry and employees referred to its prominent concrete headgear as "the tombstone on the hill."

I have no first-hand evidence that cover-ups still continue and mine managers will never admit that they take place — they would lose their jobs if they were found breaking the law. But secrecy is probably less pervasive since 1983 when the fledgling National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) insisted on being present at a full-scale open inquiry into the Hlobane explosion which killed 68 men.

Twenty years ago the gold price was still \$35 an ounce and the mines were poor. These days, they are much wealthier and can afford to spend adequately on safety and other equipment.

Nevertheless, the 250,000-strong all-black NUM is particularly perturbed that there has been no discernible reduction in the rate of underground gold mine accidents in 40 years — and that the death rate is regularly far higher for black miners than for white.

Some of South Africa's gold mines probe more than two miles into the earth, which helps to explain why accidents are more frequent than, for example, in the comparatively shallow workings of British collieries.

But an accident only becomes "reportable" if it prevents a man from returning to work within 14 days. In the U.S., by contrast, an accident is reportable if it prevents the man from doing his next shift, while in Britain reportable accidents are those which prevent a miner from working for more than three days.

The effect of this is that accidents appearing in South African statistics are far more severe than those reported in Britain or America. According to an NUM report, payment of safety bonuses based on numbers of

reportable accidents encourages white supervisors to get men back to work within the 14-day period.

Ironically perhaps, South Africa's two previous worst mine disasters were in shallow collieries. These at Coalbrook in 1960 when a large area of the colliery collapsed killing 437 men, and at Hlobane.

About 600 people die each year in gold mine accidents and their deaths, in ones or twos, normally merit no more than a paragraph in the local press. About half a million men are employed in the mines and the fatality rate is among the highest in the world.

According to a recent report into mine safety and health prepared for the NUM by Mr. Jean Leger, a researcher in the sociology department of the University of Witwatersrand, the Chamber of Mines reports that the black death rate was 1.96 per thousand per year in 1941, 1.57 in 1973, 2.00 in 1978 and 1.62 in 1984, indicating no real improvement in safety over 40 years, according to some observers. In 1984, the ratio of blacks to whites dying underground was almost five to two.

Mr. Leger is particularly concerned that less than 2 per cent of the R40 million (\$16.2 million) annual budget of the chamber's research organisation is set aside for direct research into health and safety. His report, based on interviews with black miners and analysis of reports and statistics published by the chamber, blames apartheid for the industry's poor safety record.

The system of production bonuses paid only to white miners is blamed for an inadequate approach to safety. Black miners told Mr. Leger that white miners were far more interested in production rates than in safety and that this frequently resulted in black miners being obliged to work to conditions they considered unsafe.

The Mines and Works Act, Mr. Leger says, contains little in the way of statutory protection for men who refuse to work in unsafe areas. He quotes the 1983 example of 17 black miners who were sacked when they repeatedly refused to work in what they believed to be unsafe areas of the West Driefontein gold mine.

Job reservation has not yet been scrapped in the mines and, frequently, mines are granted exemptions by the authorities permitting black team leaders to perform many of the underground jobs reserved for whites.

That is simply a legislation of practices which have gone on for years — if the job reservation regulations were strictly implemented gold mining would come to a rapid halt in South Africa. The team leaders, Mr. Leger's informants say, are frequently not adequately trained in safety procedures.

With the scrapping of job reservation in sight, the NUM is working towards reorganisation of underground working methods to ensure that safety improves.

— Financial Times feature.



One of possible tower structures (in foreground), outside the main entrance of the fortress in background



The Roman reservoir, recently refurbished for use by the local bedouin community



The small gate (marked "p" on the plan) in the south-west wall of the fortress

Peru shantytown nominated for Nobel Peace Prize

By Walker Simon
Reuters

LIMA — From a distance, the collection of straw shacks and dull brick huts fanning out over sand dunes at the edge of Lima appears like any ordinary shantytown in the Peruvian capital.

But the township, Villa el Salvador, is a beehive of communal support groups which Peruvian officials say has been nominated for the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize.

Villa el Salvador was seen on television screens around the world when Pope Paul II visited last year. Its 300,000 dwellers roared with approval when he said the poor hungered not only for God but also for bread.

Led by a leftist mayor, it is among the best known of the *pueblo jovenes*, the "young towns" which ring Peruvian cities and hold over a quarter of the country's 20 million people.

The settlements grow up overnight as peasants, mainly from the Andes mountains, creep in and build illegal dwellings.

Nearly half the population of Lima, a city of six million people, live in *pueblos jovenes*.

"The phenomenon of shantytowns and migration to the capital is common to all of Latin America," Raul Rosadio, a top government housing official, told Reuters.

"But natural disasters, terrorism and Lima's disproportionate importance has accentuated the process here."

He said Lima, which accounts for about 70 per cent of Peru's economic output, has a higher percentage of shantytown residents than any other Latin American capital.

It estimated 500 shantytowns have grown in political importance as municipal elections approach in November, sharpening the political climate.

Politicians stump through dusty streets seeking votes. Guerrillas compete for sympathy by hijacking food trucks to dole out free chicken, milk and fruit cakes to dwellers.

Government troops, faces

daubed in black grease paint, have mounted house-to-house sweeps hunting for rebels since July in at least eight shantytowns, municipal officials said.

Amid the hubbub, Villa el Salvador retained its prominence by staging Peru's only protest march at the bloody suppression of guerrilla rebellions at three Lima area jails last June.

After the quelling of the mummies, which cost at least 156 lives, Villa dwellers raised over 250 white flags and posted signs calling for "peace with justice."

Villa mayor Miguel Azcueta termed the crackdown a massacre. "I said the time had come to build peace and called for a dialogue between those Peruvians who had taken up arms and organisations which represent the people," he told Reuters.

Nearly 8,000 people have died in fighting between security forces and Maoist Sendero Luminoso guerrillas since 1980.

Azcuetta said the community was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by an international

human rights commission led by the 1980 laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

They said Villa's mutual aid system had improved living standards amid poverty that bred political violence elsewhere.

Villa, patrolled by elected volunteer guards, has the lowest crime rate of any Lima shantytown, police said.

"In other poor districts there are murders every day," Captain Raul Chavez, the police commander of Villa, told Reuters. "There haven't been any here over the past year."

Villa's uniqueness also stems from its system of volunteer work and cooperation which drew praise from Pope John Paul.

Volunteers have built 32 schools, 150 kindergartens, 150 assembly halls, a sports stadium, 250 communal kitchens, 12 chapels and factories producing bricks and cheese.

Bananas, apples and avocados grow in an irrigated valley amid the sand dunes on Lima's only community farm.

"I have learned with great joy of the generosity of which many of the dwellers of this young town help their brothers," the pope said in his February 1985 visit.

Ties to the church have been strong since Villa sprung to life in 1971. A bishop, Luis Bambarén, blessed the squatters, saying they were not invaders but founders of a new land.

Bambarén was jailed soon afterwards by the then military government. The ensuing political uproar prompted interior minister Armando Artola to resign and the bishop was freed.

Since then, Villa has maintained a high political profile. Last July, President Garcia appeared unannounced in the community to criticise the right wing in Peru.

His Social Democratic government has created 150,000 temporary public works jobs in shantytowns. In June, it enacted a law allowing expropriation of private land for legal transfer to shantytown dwellers.

Lima's Marxist mayor, Alfonso

Barrantes, the runner-up in the April 1985 presidential race which brought Garcia to power, has concentrated investment in the shantytowns.

His administration has issued 101,000 deeds to slum dwellers and more than doubled the paved roads in shantytowns.

Rosadio, the housing ministry's chief of community development, says Lima continues to draw impoverished farmers from the Andes.

To head off the flood of new shantytown dwellers, the government plans to nearly double investment in the poorest Andean regions that are a major source of migrants.

Mayor Azcueta says that over 200 organisations and personalities have written to the Nobel Peace Prize Committee in Oslo supporting the nomination of the community.

These include Vatican-based religious orders and the presidents of the leading universities of Argentina, Mexico and Peru, he said.

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China wins most golds in Asiad

South Korea beats Saudi Arabia in soccer final

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — China's men and women sprinters dashed off with gold medals in two relay races, clinching triumph for their nation in a tense duel with South Korea for the most golds of the Asian Games.

The host Koreans won the final event of the games, beating Saudi Arabia 2-0 for the soccer gold medal, and finished with 93 golds and the biggest overall medal total — 224.

But the Chinese ended up with 94 of the 270 gold medals awarded at the 16-day, 27-nation Asiad, whose closing ceremony followed immediately after the soccer game Sunday.

China and South Korea started the games' final day tied with 92 gold medals each, and Korea leading 220 to 219 in total medals. But Korea was unable to win a gold in any of the day's five track events, and China raced away with gold in the men's and women's 4 x 100-metre relays in Seoul Olympic Stadium.

South Korea won bronze medals in the men's marathon and the men's and women's 4 x 100-metre relays, assuring it of victory in the total medal count.

China had 82 silvers and 46 bronzes to go with its 94 golds. South Korea had 55 silvers and 76 bronzes.

Japan, dethroned by the Chinese as Asia's no. 1 sports power in the 1982 Asian Games in

New Delhi, won the marathon and the men's 4 x 400-metre relay, finishing with 58 golds, 76 silvers and 77 bronzes for a 211 total.

P.T. Usha of India became the games' seventh quadruple gold medal winner when the Indian team won the women's 4 x 400-metre relay, but ended up short of her goal of six golds.

She lost earlier to archivist Lydia De Vega of the Philippines in the 100 metres and her 4 x 100-metre relay team finished fourth in Sunday's race. Her golds came in the 200, 400, 400-metre hurdles and the 4 x 400-metre relay.

Led by Japan's 'Takeyuki Nakayama, who challenged the world record in the marathon, the runners in Sunday's track events broke records in all five — cracking three Asian records and two Asian Games marks.

Nakayama, who ran unchallenged and faded slightly over the last 10 kilometres, ended settling for a games record in the marathon, winning in 2 hours, 8 minutes, 21 seconds, slower than his own Asian record of 2:08.15 and the world record of 2:07.12 set by Carlos Lopez of Portugal in

Final Medal Table Standings in the Asian Games

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
China	94	82	46
Korea	93	55	76
Japan	58	76	77
Iran	6	6	10
India	5	9	23
Philippines	4	5	9
Thailand	3	10	13
Pakistan	2	3	4
Indonesia	1	5	14
Hong Kong	1	1	3
Qatar	1	0	3
Lebanon	1	0	1
Bahrain	1	0	1
Malaysia	0	5	5
Iraq	0	5	2
Jordan	0	3	1
Kuwait	0	1	8
Singapore	0	1	4
Saudi Arabia	0	1	0
Nepal	0	0	8
Bangladesh	0	0	1
Oman	0	0	1

1985.

The games record had been 2:15.29.7.

Usha and teammates V. Manathoor Devasia, Vandana Rao and Shiny Kurishinkal

Abraham won the women's 4 x 400 in 3 minutes, 34.38 seconds, shattering the games record of 3:37.44 set by Japan in 1982.

Then the Japanese won the men's 4 x 400 in 3:02.33, breaking their own Asian record of 3:05.09, set last year.

China set an Asian record of 44.78 in winning the women's 4 x 100, breaking the old record of 45.07 set by Thailand last year.

It also cracked its own Asian record of 39.34 in the men's 4 x 100, winning in 39.17 with Japan second in 39.31.

Even without a close challenger, Nakayama was within reach of the world mark at the 30-kilometre point of the 42.195-kilometre race, but weakened over the last stretch.



Cha Bum ... scored for Bayer Leverkusen (Photo: Dad/Horstmuller)

Bayer challenges league leader Bayern Munich

BONN (R) — Bayer Leverkusen thrashed Werder Bremen 4-1 at home to emerge as the new challenger to West German League leader Bayern Munich.

Bayer was two ahead after 37 minutes through South Korean international Cha Bum, who headed the first in the 32nd minute, and Christian Schreier.

Although Frank Orlowski pulled one back for Werder before half-time, Bayer raised the tempo in the second half. Two goals by international Herbert Wess in the 63rd and 72nd minutes sealed a victory that ousted Hamburg from

second place in the table.

Bayern Munich, with acute injury problems, stayed top with 15 points, two ahead of Leverkusen, after maintaining its unbeaten run with an uninspiring 3-2 home win against Bochum.

Bayer scored twice within 60 seconds midway through the first half. Michael Rummenigge and Hans Pflueger collecting the goals. A penalty to Bochum in the 42nd minute, converted by Michael Lameck, reduced the deficit before Roland Wohlfarth restored Bayern's two-goal advantage after an hour.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dancing Brave wins Arc race

PARIS (AP) — Britain's Dancing Brave, ridden by Irish jockey Pat Eddery, scored a brilliant victory yesterday in the 65th Prix De L'Arc De Triomphe, winning by more than half a length after a tough battle in the final straight. It was Eddery's third win in the classic, and particularly welcome for owner Sheikh Khalid Abdullah, whose Sagace won the race last year only after a protest.

India clinches cricket series

AHMEDABAD, India (AP) — India defeated Australia by 52 runs Sunday in the fifth One-Day Cricket International at Ahmedabad. The win put India 3-1 ahead of Australia, clinching the series.

France returns to Davis Cup top

MONTPELLIER, France (AP) — France's Henri Leconte and Guy Forget defeated Austria's Thomas Muster and Alexander Antonish in Saturday's doubles to give France victory in its Davis Cup European Zone final and put France back in the Davis Cup to 16 ranking again. Leconte and Thierry Tulasne won the first two singles Friday.

Australian Burgman killed in crash

BATHURST, Australia (AP) — Leading Australian motor racing driver Mike Burgman was killed Sunday in a high-speed accident on the Mt. Panorama circuit in Bathurst during the James Hardie 1,000. Burgman, 39, was doing 250 kph (155 mph) when he lost control of his Holden Commodore V8 and slammed head-on into a concrete boundary wall. Race officials said it took 15 minutes to cut him free.

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The project consists of the supply and construction of about 18 km of water lines ranging in size from 80 mm to 350 mm, construction of 4500 m³ reinforced concrete ground reservoir, supply and construction of about 22 km of sewer mains ranging in size from 150 mm to 300 mm.

1. A prebid conference will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 1986 beginning at 9:00 hours at the offices of the Water Authority.
2. All bidders will be required to complete and submit the qualification questionnaire with their bid in one envelope. If a joint venture seeks qualification, the data should be supplied for each firm in the joint venture.
3. The bids and the qualification questionnaires are due not later than 12:00 noon Jordan local time on Tuesday, October 28, 1986 at the main office of the Water Authority.
4. Contract documents may be examined and purchased at the following address:

WATER AUTHORITY
Jabal Hussein
Nabius Street, P.O. Box 2412
Amman - Jordan
Telephone 666111
Telex: 22438 WAJ JO.

The cost of the initial copy of the contract documents purchased by a bidder is JD 100 per set, and the cost of any additional copies of the contract documents purchased by a bidder is JD 50 per set. No refunds will be made for the return of full or partial sets of contract documents. Copies of the contract documents will be sent to prospective bidders by the Water Authority upon receipt of the proper amount in a bank check.

Eng. M.S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

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Former U.S. negotiator says no reason for optimism on summit

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP) — Former U.S. arms negotiator Paul Warnke is pessimistic that any meaningful arms control agreements will be reached at next week's U.S.-Soviet meeting in Iceland, the Hamburg-published *Der Spiegel* magazine reported.

In an interview with *Der Spiegel*, Mr. Warnke, who negotiated the SALT II treaty under former President Jimmy Carter, said he thought "cosmetic" results were more likely to come from the meeting Saturday and Sunday between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"There is no sign that the government really will get any arms control agreements. It is also questionable whether the government as a whole is at all interested in such agreements," Mr. Warnke said of the Reagan administration, according to *Der Spiegel*.

"What we are experiencing at the moment are to a great extent manoeuvres, with which both sides are trying to win over public opinion," Mr. Warnke said.

"Gorbachev doesn't want to cancel the summit, and neither does Reagan. Therefore it can be that they will agree to some cosmetic negotiations and some cosmetic reports of success. But something really meaningful can only take place when both sides are ready for compromises in offensive and defensive systems," Mr. Warnke told the magazine.

Der Spiegel appears at newsstands in West Germany on Monday, but an advance copy was made available to the Associated Press.

The Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* said Sunday the Soviet Union and the United States faced some hard work at the Reykjavik meeting.

Pravda commentator Vladislav Drobkov wrote that the agreement to meet in Iceland

showed realism on the part of both countries but arms control accords would be difficult to achieve.

"There is no sense today in being transported by illusions," he said. "The work at Reykjavik, the road to achieving mutual agreements and a real cut in arms, cannot be and for sure will not be easy."

The commentator cited conflicts between the Reagan administration and Congress over U.S. military programmes as one reason to question whether arms control accords were imminent.

"If the administration is conducting a bitter struggle with its own American Congress over its military policy, it is easy to expect from it serious steps towards restraining the arms race?" the commentator asked.

At the same time, Drobkov said, the United States and the Soviet Union had shown realism and a constructive approach in agreeing to stage the meeting in Reykjavik.

"This gives grounds for hoping that it will be possible to achieve a breakthrough for the better in Soviet-American relations and in the world at large," he said.

Meanwhile a Newsweek magazine poll released Saturday said nearly six in every 10 Americans believe the Iceland summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is a public relations meeting where little will be accomplished.

According to the poll of 847 adults, 58 per cent believe each leader will concentrate mostly on improving his public image during the meeting. Thirty-two per cent said they expect significant progress in arms control talks and better U.S.-Soviet relations following the meeting.

The poll also showed most Americans do not believe Mr. Reagan's contention that no deal was made to spring U.S. reporter Nicholas Daniloff from the Soviet Union. Seventy-two per cent believe Daniloff was exchanged for accused Soviet spy Gennadiy Zakharov. The poll also showed 70 per cent believed it was the best way to get Daniloff released.

The poll was conducted by the Gallup Organisation on Oct. 1-2, and has a margin of error of plus or minus four per cent.

10 rebels killed as Sri Lankan security drive ends

COLOMBO (R) — At least 10 guerrillas have been killed and 18 arrested in a four-day government drive against rebel hideouts in eastern Sri Lanka, a military official said.

Troops recovered 1,500 detonators, 45 landmines and a massive haul of arms and ammunition in the operation, which saw the most bitter fighting in recent months between government soldiers and guerrillas fighting for a separate Tamil state.

Some civilian homes in which rebels were hiding were damaged in the operation, which ended Sunday, the official said by telephone from Trincomalee, east of Colombo.

"We have raided and destroyed several rebel camps. We are now in the process of consolidating our positions and clearing the area," he said. A follow-up operation was continuing in the Sambalivu area.

A government statement said about 4,000 people had sought refuge from the fighting in schools and places of worship.

The official said the operation was prompted by a large concentration of rebels in the area and their repeated attempts to blast the railway track, small bridges and attacks on farmers and civilians there.

In the northern city of Jaffna, a rebel stronghold, shops closed and streets were deserted for the fifth straight day as residents kept up a protest against the fighting by guerrillas, the state-run media centre said Sunday.

Guerrillas say residents in northern province and some parts of the east are backing their separatist struggle.

Meanwhile, nearly 500,000 people converged in the heart of Colombo Sunday in a colourful gesture to promote shelter for the homeless in Sri Lanka.

The marchers, some of whom walked about five kilometres, were greeted by President Junius Jayewardene and Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Ministers, vice-president arrested in Uganda

KAMPALA (R) — Uganda has arrested two government ministers and a former vice-president on charges of attempting to cause instability in the country, an official statement said Sunday.

The statement, read on Radio Uganda, said the government had been watching the activities of Energy Minister Andrew Kayunga, Environment Minister David Lwanga and former Vice-President Paulo Muwanga, as well as those of other individuals, and had amassed evidence that they were "contributing to activities calculated to cause insecurity."

Other prominent Ugandans arrested in the same operation were Francis Bwengye, an executive committee member of Mr. Kayunga's Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM), and Anthony Sekweyama, editor of the conservative Democratic Party (DP) newspaper, the government said in its statement.

The UFM, DP and Mr. Lwanga's Federal Democratic Movement (Fedemo) are partners in the ruling coalition headed by

President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Movement (NRM).

Sources close to Mr. Kayunga said security men from Mr. Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA) had also arrested at least five senior officers from the minister's Uganda Freedom Army (UFA), including Pakistani Mercenary Soori Sajed, the UFA's chief training officer.

The government statement treated the detainees as individuals but political sources said the crackdown appeared to be directed at fringe groups resisting some NRM policies from within the cabinet.

Prime Minister Samson Kisekka told a news conference the NRM would change its attitude towards its coalition partners if it discovered that they were opposing the movement.

The statement linked the detainees with rebel forces in the north, saying they had attempted to persuade soldiers at Naam-Okora Barracks, 340 kilometres north east of the capital, to work with the rebels and overthrow the government.

Pope speaks out against abortion and divorce

PARAY-LE-MONIAL, France (AP) — Pope John Paul II returned to his offensive against abortion and divorce Sunday, saying they were signs that modern civilisation is developing a heart of stone.

During his homily at mass in this Burgundy town, the Pontiff urged Roman Catholics to work at conserving "a heart of flesh, a heart that has a human sensibility and a heart that lets itself be conquered by the holy spirit."

The Pope, on his second day of a four-day visit to France, described the increasing numbers of broken families and abortions as "signs of a real and true sickness that hits at people, couples, children and society itself."

Earlier, the Pope visited the small ecumenical religious community at Taizé, a tiny village nestled on a hillside, where he addressed 600 faithful gathered in an interlocking tent and church. The non-denominational

Christian community and its church of the reconciliation, visited by as many as 2,000 pilgrims a week, many of them young, was praised by the Pope as being a work recognised as a symbol of a "springtime of the spirit."

The community's 80 Protestant and Catholic brothers from 20 countries pray for the reunification of all Christian churches.

Speaking to the brothers at Taizé, Pope John Paul said young people especially appreciated the possibility of a quiet, spiritual retreat, "like a springtime for all those who seek the true life."

Pope John Paul was greeted by Brother Roger, the 71-year-old son of a Swiss Protestant clergyman who founded the Taizé community during the throes of World War II and has counselled many Popes, including John Paul II.

Soviets may have lost Antarctic station

MOSCOW (AP) — A giant pack of ice up to 100 kilometres wide has broken away from an Antarctic glacier and may have led to the loss of a Soviet research station on the glacier, the government newspaper said Saturday.

Izvestia quoted the head of ocean geology at the National Ministry of Geology as saying that nobody was at the station at the time satellite photographs showed the ice pack breaking away.

Geologist Y.B. Kazmin was quoted as saying, "Looking at the pictures, we couldn't succeed in finding out what has happened with the station. It has either gone down the crack (between the ice pack and the glacier) or it has

suffered no damage and is safe."

There are now about 15 kilometres of water between the ice pack and the main glacier, known as the Filchner Glacier near the Wendell Sea in the north western Antarctic, Izvestia said.

It said the Soviet station, known as the Druzhnaya 1, was set up in 1976 and served as a base for naval expeditions to the main ice shelf in the Wendell Sea to see if the area contained oil and natural gas.

A team of 170 Soviet geologists was due to leave late this month for the Druzhnaya 1, which was manned only in the Antarctic summer months of December, January and February, Izvestia said.

It quoted Kazmin as saying the men would now go to another, unspecified station.

The station contained stored equipment, fuel and temporary living quarters, Izvestia said.

It did not give any estimate of the value, but quoted Kazmin as saying experts in Moscow were considering ways of moving the Druzhnaya's equipment to another location if the station had survived.

The report was the first word that the Antarctic station might have been lost. It was not clear when satellite photographs first alerted the Soviets to the potential loss.

Pravda denounces Solidarity council

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Communist Party daily *Pravda* denounced a newly-created council of Solidarity independent trade union leaders in Poland Sunday and said they wanted to plunge the country into anarchy.

Giving the most authoritative reaction from Moscow so far to the Solidarity council, established last Monday, *Pravda* said some people in Poland had failed to grasp the significance of a recent amnesty that freed all political prisoners.

"There is a small group of people who are trying to use the amnesty to return to the situation of turmoil, induced by anti-Socialist forces, which existed up to the introduction of martial law in December 1981," the newspaper said.

"Seven former ringleaders of Solidarity have announced the establishment in Gdansk of a certain 'temporary council' of this organisation, whose anti-Socialist character was long ago unmasked and proved," it said.

Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa and six other activists set up the council to campaign openly for trade union pluralism. "The self-styled council is intending to revive illegal activity, in contravention of Poland's laws," *Pravda* said.

The article, written by a *Pravda* correspondent in Warsaw, Oleg Losoto, said the amnesty had received support from "broad circles of Polish society" and had cut the ground from under the Polish opposition.

Labour still leads in U.K. polls

LONDON (AP) — The socialist Labour Party leads Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party by 3 percentage points in an opinion poll published Sunday.

A Harris Poll in the Observer, a London weekly, showed Labour with 41 per cent of the vote, compared with 38 per cent for the Conservatives and 20 per cent for the centrist Social Democratic-Liberal Party Alliance.

Labour, which has consistently led the Conservatives in public opinion polls this year, might have expected to be leading by a wider

margin, benefiting from the widespread coverage of its annual conference last week in the northern England resort of Blackpool.

But it appears to have lost some support by reaffirming on Thursday its controversial commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament.

When asked which party was most trusted to make the right decisions on defence, nuclear weapons and disarmament, 38 per cent replied Conservative, 30 per cent Labour, and 12 per cent chose the Alliance parties.

Mrs. Thatcher's personal

support continued to slip. Thirty-six per cent said she was doing a good job running the country and 53 per cent said she was doing a bad job.

The poll of 1,025 adults was carried out Thursday and Friday across the country, but no margin of error was given.

Mrs. Thatcher, who came to power in 1979, was re-elected to a second term in June 1983 and does not have to call another election before June 1988. The annual Conservative conference starts Tuesday in Bournemouth, on the English south coast.

Barnala: Attack on Ribeiro shows poor security

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — An assassination attempt by Sikh extremists on Punjab police chief Julio Ribeiro has exposed serious gaps in security there, the state's Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala said Sunday.

"Ribeiro's guards were not trained, they were not quick to react," Mr. Barnala told Reuters. "The attackers were apparently helped by somebody inside the camp and knew the entire set-up."

"There has definitely been a serious security lapse," Ribeiro, known for his tough, anti-extremist stance, and his wife Melba were slightly injured when six gunmen disguised as policemen stormed a heavily-guarded police camp in the industrial city of Jullundur last Friday.

One paramilitary policeman was killed and four were injured by the attackers, who escaped. Most of northern India was placed on red alert after the attack and the attempted assassination of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Delhi the previous day.

"This kind of attack was always feared," said Mr. Barnala, whose moderate Sikh government has been plagued by extremist violence since coming to power one year ago. The extremists want a separate Sikh state in Punjab.

"We knew the terrorists would try to show their hand through a major incident. By hitting selective targets they get more publicity," he said.

"By attacking Ribeiro, the terrorists have only tried to prove their existence, to show that they are capable of causing harm," he said.

More than 530 people have been killed in Punjab in extremist-related violence since Mr. Barnala took office.

A senior police official told Reuters that, in comparison, about 600 people had died in the state in the previous two years when Punjab was ruled directly from New Delhi.

Extremist attacks dropped sharply after Ribeiro took command in March.

New trial for De Lorean begins today

DETROIT (R) — John De Lorean, acquitted two years ago in a sensational cocaine case, goes on trial again Monday accused of defrauding investors in his bankrupt sports car firm of millions of dollars.

The former General Motors executive is fighting a year-old, 15-count indictment accusing him of profiting handsomely from an alleged international swindle that stretched from Europe to the Americas.

The trial has been delayed several times due to its complex nature.

Prosecutors earlier this year got special permission from U.S. District Judge Julian Cook in Detroit to take special testimony from lawyers, bankers and motor company figures in Europe.

Judge Cook also ordered the principals not to talk to the media. Those close to the case described this as an effort to curb the kind of sensationalised "circus atmosphere" news coverage that surrounded the Los Angeles trial in August 1984 which acquitted De Lorean of cocaine smuggling.

The carmaker, who was fighting to save his car company from mounting debts, persuaded jurors he was a victim of government entrapment.

De Lorean still faces \$100 million in civil claims by his car firm's creditors — including the British government — who have tied up about \$20 million of his personal assets.

He has also been involved in a child custody and property battle with his third wife, Christina Ferrare, who filed for divorce soon after the Los Angeles trial.

The criminal charges in Detroit involve the disappearance of nearly \$18 million from De Lorean's project that briefly built stainless steel sports cars in Northern Ireland with \$150 million in backing from the British government.

U.S. supreme court opens new term

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. supreme court convenes on Monday, beginning a new era under President Reagan's controversial choice of William Rehnquist as chief justice and deeply divided on capital punishment and other issues.

The staunchly conservative Rehnquist, who won Senate confirmation last month by a 65-to-33 vote after a long and bitter battle over his suitability, succeeded Warren Burger, who retired after 17 years in the top judicial post.

Mr. Reagan, seeking to shape the court in his own conservative image, also named Antonin Scalia, 51, a former appeals court judge, to fill a vacancy on the nine-member bench, making him

the first American of Italian descent to serve on the tribunal. The appointments may strengthen the court's conservative bent but administration officials and even some justices doubted that the court would move sharply to the right.

"I think that there will be less perceptible change than a lot of people may think," U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese, said at a recent news conference.

Of the 100 cases already on the court's list, the most divisive may be a Georgia case challenging the death penalty as unconstitutional for discriminating according to the victim's race.

The court's liberals, led by

Orlov leaves Moscow for U.S.

MOSCOW (R) — Dissident physicist Yuri Orlov, released from exile in Siberia, left Moscow with his wife Irina Sunday aboard a New York-bound Aeroflot airliner to start a new life in enforced emigration.

Orlov, 62, was escorted to the plane across the tarmac of Moscow airport by two unidentified Soviet personnel, away from the glare of Western television cameras in the main hall, a U.S. embassy official said.

Wearing a winter coat and jeans, he boarded the plane before all other passengers, the official told reporters at Sheremetyevo Airport.

Mrs. Orlov, looking dazed and

bewildered, checked in and passed through customs as normal. Asked how she felt to be leaving the Soviet Union, she said: "It's hard."

The minister-counsellor at the U.S. embassy, Richard Combs, was accompanying the Orlovs on the flight to New York.

Orlov was one of the leaders of the short-lived Soviet dissident movement before he was arrested in February 1977 and charged with "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda."

In May 1978, he was sentenced to seven years in a labour camp and five years of internal exile — the strictest possible sentence for a first-time offender.

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BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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A MATTER OF ENTRIES

East-West deals	vulnerable	North	
NORTH			
♠ A 5 3			
♥ K 8 4 3			
♦ 7 5			
♣ A K Q 10			
WEST		EAST	
♠ 9 4		♠ K 6 2	
♥ J 7 6		♥ A Q 9 5	
♦ J 10 9 8 4 3		♦ A	
♣ 8 3		♣ 9 6 5 4 2	
SOUTH			
♠ Q J 10 8 7			
♥ 10 2			
♦ K Q 6 3			
♣ J 7			
The bidding:			
North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠			

If you are sure that, in the fullness of time, you will get all the tricks due to you, you can afford a passive defense. If, however, you can see that declarer has a source of discards, you cannot sit back and wait—you must strike immediately.

North-South reached four spades on a normal auction. With three-card support and a doubleton, North clearly preferred the suit contract to no trump.

West led the jack of diamonds to

his partner's ace, and East paused to take stock. Three defensive tricks were obvious: the red aces and the king of trumps. The natural way to take the setting trick would seem to be with the queen of hearts since the king was in dummy. However, East realized the queen of hearts might never take a trick.

West could not have a fast entry to lead a heart through the king. And the table's clubs were surely going to provide declarer with one or more discards. What then?

East came up with the bright idea of trying for a diamond ruff. For that to succeed, he needed to find declarer with at least two hearts and his partner with the jack. At trick two East returned the queen of hearts.

There was no counter to this brilliant stroke. If declarer tried to discard a heart on clubs, West would ruff. Declarer won the king of hearts, came to hand with the jack of clubs and tried the trump finesse. East won and continued with a low heart to his partner's jack.

It was obvious to West why his partner had not cashed the ace of hearts which he obviously held. West's diamond return capped off a brilliant defense by allowing his partner to ruff for the setting trick.

COLUMN

120 addicts sent to island

TEHRAN (R) — Another 120 Iranian drug addicts have been banished to an island colony in the Gulf, the newspaper *Islamic Republic* reported Sunday. It said a total 3,537 people had been sent to the unnamed island since it was opened two years ago as a detention camp and rehabilitation centre for incorrigible addicts.

Runaway cow kills 2, injures 20

MOURA, Portugal (R) — Two people were killed and 20 were injured in southern Portugal when a cow which was going to take part in a cow-baiting event at a local festival broke loose and attacked a crowd of onlookers, police said. The animal broke through protective wooden fencing as it was being unloaded from a truck at Moura in the Alentejo region. It was later recaptured and killed. Cows are often substituted for bulls in cattle-baiting events in Portugal and Spain. Fatalities are rare although injuries caused by horns and hooves are relatively common.

Soviets complain about sex, violence on films, TV

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet citizens are worried about falling moral standards because of the amount of sex and violence in the cinema and on television, according to letters received by the newspaper *Sovetskaya Kultura*. The newspaper said it had received letters from worried parents saying their children to the cinema or even to go with each other. "Like in foreign films, everything sexual begins in bed and ends up with naked bodies. Surely you, the newspaper editors, watch television and go to the cinema? Surely we can't let our morals slip like this?" one reader wrote. The newspaper said it could not reply to all the letters with one answer but added that in some cases such scenes were justified on artistic grounds.

House of God turned into house of dogs

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — "Dogs not allowed" said the sign outside the Gustaf Vasa Church, but inside there were some yelps from four-legged, hairy members of the congregation. They were invited to an unprecedented special service for dogs, turning the downtown Stockholm House of God into a house of dogs for a day. The Lutheran minister, the Rev. Bengt Hallermark, said he arranged the special canine service to "promote love for dogs and other animals, victimised by humans in experiments and food production. They are God's creation and it is our task to shelter and protect them." About a hundred dogs, accompanied mostly by well-dressed elderly mistresses, gathered in the red brick church often used for society weddings in a park of the quiet, wealthy Ostermalen neighbourhood. "The was nice. The animals are as much part of the world as us, as acknowledged in the Bible, and the dogs deserve this," said one lady wearing a blue bow in her bonnet to match one on her trim apricot poodle.

Shattered violin may have been a Stradivarius

READING, England (AP) — Only when a double-decker bus crushed his beloved violin did a 19-year-old music student realise he may have been the owner of a Stradivarius worth some £500,000 (\$720,000), a television report has said. As the instrument was reduced to a pile of splinters, Richard Steel saw for the first time an inscription in Latin that said the violin had been made by the great Italian violin-maker Antonio Stradivari in 1715, according to the British Broadcasting Corp. and the news agency Press Association. "I knew it was an old violin, but I didn't suspect it was a Strad," the agency quoted Steel as saying. "The inscription was actually inside the violin and could not be seen unless you took the instrument to pieces. The bus certainly did that."